



# **Domestic Violence – Weapons Amendments**

## **Bureau of Criminal Identification (BCI)**

### **2019 Report to Legislature**

#### **Firearm Transfer Denials Due To Domestic Violence Conviction Investigations & Prosecutions**

- House Bill 325, 2019 General Session, requires law enforcement agencies to report criminal investigations and subsequent charges for firearm transfer denials due to previous convictions for domestic violence to the Utah Bureau of Criminal Identification.
- House Bill 325 requires the Bureau of Criminal Identification to report the total number of firearm transfer denials for domestic violence, the number of criminal investigations stemming from those denials, and the number of those investigations that resulted in criminal charges.
- It is important to note that agencies are required to report on investigations into attempts to purchase firearms by their residents, and these attempts to purchase may not take place in their city of residence.
- The first reporting period is from the effective date of the bill, May 14, 2019 to the end of the fiscal year, June 30, 2019. The next reporting period will be from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020.
- The Bureau of Criminal Identification allows all law enforcement agencies in Utah access to firearm transfer denial information via the Utah Criminal Justice Information System (UCJIS). For the reporting period May 14 through June 30, 2019, there were 16 firearm transfer denials due to an existing domestic violence conviction. Twelve agencies were notified of these denials via UCJIS. Four agencies had two denials for residents of their jurisdiction.

- Thirteen of the sixteen attempted purchases took place outside of the city of residence of the attempted purchaser.
- For the first reporting period, 6 criminal investigations were reported for the 16 domestic violence denials.
- For the first reporting period, 3 investigations resulted in criminal charges.
- The Bureau of Criminal Identification is working with the Department of Technology Services to improve the method of reporting transfer denials to law enforcement agencies.